General Assembly

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/61/592/Add.2)*]

61/252. Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007

The General Assembly,

I

Construction of additional conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts by the Government of Austria, as host country, to construct conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[1] and endorses the related observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[2]

II

Construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[3] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[4]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Government of Ethiopia, as host country, in facilitating the construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa;

[1] A/61/166.
[2] A/61/361.
[3] A/61/158.
[4] A/61/362.

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[3] and endorses the related observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[4]

III

Contingent liability reserve for the United Nations Postal Administration

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on a contingent liability reserve for the United Nations Postal Administration[5] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[6]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[5] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[6]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, at the second part of its resumed sixty-first session, a comprehensive report setting out:

(*a*) Options for reducing the risk posed to the United Nations Postal Administration by the use of its services for commercial and bulk mail;

(*b*) Options other than the establishment of the contingent liability reserve for the United Nations Postal Administration;

(*c*) The status of the negotiations between the United Nations Postal Administration and postal authorities where the United Nations Postal Administration operates;

(*d*) Further elaboration of the proposals contained in the report of the Secretary-General;

IV

Identification of additional resources for the Development Account

Recalling its resolutions 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, 52/220 and 52/221 A of 22 December 1997, 52/235 of 26 June 1998, 53/220 A of 7 April 1999, 53/220 B of 8 June 1999, 54/15 of 29 October 1999, 56/237 of 24 December 2001 and 60/246 of 23 December 2005,

Reaffirming its resolution 56/237, whereby it requested the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to enhance efficiency measures that might result in sustainable savings, with a view to augmenting the Development Account, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 54/15,

Noting with concern that since the establishment of the Development Account in 1997, no savings from possible reductions in administration and other overhead costs have been identified for transfer to the Development Account, notwithstanding the decisions of the General Assembly, including its resolution 52/12 B,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the identification of additional resources for the Development Account[7] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[8]

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[5] A/61/295.

[6] A/61/480.

[7] A/61/282.

[8] A/61/479.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[7]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[8]

3. *Recalls* paragraph 14 of its resolution 60/246, and regrets that the Secretary-General has not been able to provide recommendations to the General Assembly on how additional resources in the region of 5 million United States dollars could be added to the Development Account;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its sixty-second session a comprehensive report setting out recommendations on how additional resources, without using surpluses, could be identified for transfer to the Development Account, including:

(*a*) A review of the modalities and rationale for the funding of the Development Account as contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the Account submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session[9] and subsequent reports of the Secretary-General and resolutions of the Assembly, in the light of experience;

(*b*) A definition of procedures to identify efficiency or other gains, including but not limited to any potential savings that might be identified by Member States for transfer to the Development Account in the context of intergovernmental processes, as well as their practical measures of implementation;

5. *Decides* to appropriate under section 34, Development Account, of the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007 the amount of 2.5 million dollars as an immediate exceptional measure towards addressing the lack of transfer of resources to the Account since its inception;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide recommendations to the General Assembly on identifying a further 2.5 million dollars in the context of his report to be submitted in accordance with paragraph 4 (*b*) above;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare an assessment of the impact of the Development Account in terms of its aims and purposes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session;

V

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its first, resumed second, and third sessions and its first, second and third special sessions in 2006

Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its first, resumed second, and third sessions and its first, second and third special sessions in 2006,[10] and endorses the related oral report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[11]

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[7] A/52/1009.

[10] A/61/530 and Add.1.

[11] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Fifth Committee*, 34th meeting (A/C.5/61/SR.34), and corrigendum.

VI

Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the reports of the International Civil Service Commission for 2005 and 2006

Recalling its resolution 61/239 of 22 December 2006, entitled "United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission",

Takes note of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General[12] on the administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the reports of the International Civil Service Commission for 2005[13] and 2006[14] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[15]

VII

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Recalling its resolutions 60/247 A and 60/248 of 23 December 2005, 60/255 of 8 May 2006 and 60/281 of 30 June 2006,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council[16] and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the management of special political missions by the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat,[17] as well as the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[18]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[16]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[18] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services,[17] and decides to revert to the consideration of this report during its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made to include information on actual and potential synergies and complementarities for each individual mission, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to develop and improve the presentation of information in this regard;

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[12] A/61/381.

[13] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 30* and corrigendum (A/60/30 and Corr.1).

[14] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 30* (A/61/30).

[15] A/61/484.

[16] A/61/525 and Add.1-5 and Add.3/Corr.1.

[17] A/61/357.

[18] A/61/640 and Corr.1.

5. *Underlines* the continued importance of the Secretary-General's ensuring, when appointing his Special Representatives and Envoys, the highest standards of integrity, competency, impartiality and professionalism;

6. *Recalls* that in paragraph 9 of its resolution 55/231 of 23 December 2000, it requested the Secretary-General to ensure that, in presenting the programme budget, expected accomplishments and, where possible, indicators of achievement were included to measure achievements in the implementation of the programmes of the Organization and not those of individual Member States;

7. *Notes* the concerns expressed by Member States[11] and requests the Secretary-General to review the logical frameworks for all special political missions in order to ensure that their programmatic aspects and resource requirements are consistent with mandates of the General Assembly and the Security Council, and to report thereon to the Assembly no later than the early part of the second part of its resumed sixty-first session;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit his future budget proposals in full compliance with its resolution 55/231;

9. *Approves* a charge of 326,500,000 dollars for the budgets of special political missions for the year 2007;

10. *Takes note* of the estimated unencumbered balance of 95,883,600 dollars;

11. *Decides* to appropriate, after taking into account the estimated unencumbered balance of 95,883,600 dollars, under the procedures provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, an amount of 230,616,400 dollars under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007;

12. *Also decides* to appropriate an amount of 22,383,900 dollars under section 35, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007;

VIII

First performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007

Having considered the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007[19] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[20]

Recalling its resolutions 60/247 A and B of 23 December 2005, 60/281 of 30 June 2006 and 60/283 of 7 July 2006,

1. *Reaffirms* the budgetary process as approved in its resolution 41/213 and as reaffirmed in subsequent resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007 and the addendum on the utilization of the subvention for the Special Court for Sierra Leone[19] and endorses the

[19] A/61/593 and Add.1.

[20] A/61/635.

observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[20]

3. *Recalls* paragraph 14 of its resolution 58/270 of 23 December 2003 and section III, paragraph 12, of its resolution 60/283 and, noting with concern that within the context of the fifty posts experiment, no available posts were provided for the new post requests referred to in paragraphs IV.2, IV.28 and IV.29 of the first report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007,[21] reiterates once again its request to the Secretary-General to expeditiously implement paragraph 8 of its resolution 60/246 of 23 December 2005 and to report thereon in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007;

4. *Also recalls* section III, paragraph 6, of its resolution 60/283, and requests the Secretary-General to implement its provisions and to report thereon in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007;

5. *Emphasizes* that the performance report should be submitted in a timely manner in order to allow Member States to analyse it and to facilitate budget preparation;

6. *Approves* a net increase of 81,246,800 dollars in the appropriation approved for the biennium 2006–2007 and a net increase of 28,857,800 dollars in the estimates of income for the biennium, to be apportioned among expenditure and income sections as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General;

IX

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2006

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2006[22] and endorses the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[23]

X

Administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board[24] and the related oral report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[25]

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[21] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (A/60/7 and Corr.1).

[22] A/61/370 and Corr.1.

[23] A/61/498.

[24] A/61/577.

[25] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Fifth Committee*, 27th meeting (A/C.5/61/SR.27), and corrigendum.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board;[24]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on any additional requirements arising from the recommendations of the Board in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007;

XI

Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as its governing body

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991, in which it approved the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, according to which the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence[26] was renamed the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund and became an integral part of the Programme,

Recalling also its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, in which it decided that, until the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime decided otherwise, the account referred to in article 30 of the Convention[27] would be operated within the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund,

Recalling further its resolution 58/4 of 31 October 2003, in which it decided that, until the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption decided otherwise, the account referred to in article 62 of the Convention[28] would be operated within the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund,

Taking note of the Secretary-General's bulletin on the organization of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[29] by which the Secretary-General decided that the Office would be established to implement the Organization's drug programme and crime programme in an integrated manner and that the Executive Director would be responsible for all the activities of the Office, as well as its administration,

Considering that, starting from the biennium 2004–2005, a consolidated budget for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has been prepared, including budgets for its drug and crime programmes,

Considering also that the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in accordance with the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 and relevant subsequent resolutions, already provides its views and guidance on the proposed biennial programme plan and on the crime programme, which forms the basis for the formulation of the proposed programme budget for the following biennium and whose narrative part is subsequently considered by the Commission,

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[26] See Economic and Social Council resolution 1086 B (XXXIX).

[27] Resolution 55/25, annex I.

[28] Resolution 58/4, annex.

[29] ST/SGB/2004/6.

Noting the delegation of authority for the management of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund from the Secretary-General to the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna,

Considering that it would be opportune to grant the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice the same powers with respect to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund as the Commission on Narcotic Drugs has with respect to the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme,

Having considered the letter dated 19 October 2006 from the Chairman of the Third Committee addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee[30] transmitting a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as its governing body", the relevant note by the Secretary-General,[31] and the related oral report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[25]

1. *Authorizes* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal United Nations policymaking body on crime prevention and criminal justice issues, to approve, on the basis of the proposals of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, bearing in mind the comments and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the budget of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, including its administrative and programme support costs budget, other than expenditures borne by the regular budget of the United Nations, without prejudice to the powers of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, as provided for in that Convention,[27] and to the powers of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as provided for in that Convention;[28]

2. *Requests* the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to submit its comments and recommendations on the biennial consolidated budget for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

3. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the ways in which it plans to carry out the administrative and financial functions;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promulgate financial rules for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,[32] it being understood that the references in the said financial rules to the role and functions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice shall be consistent with the role of the Commission given in paragraph 1 above;

5. *Decides* that, notwithstanding regulations 6.1 and 6.5 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime shall maintain the accounts of the Fund and shall be

[30] A/C.5/61/9.

[31] A/C.5/61/10.

[32] ST/SGB/2003/7.

responsible for submitting the said accounts and related financial statements, no later than 31 March following the end of the financial period, to the Board of Auditors and for submitting financial reports to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to the General Assembly;

XII

Contingency fund

Notes that a balance of 637,300 dollars remains in the contingency fund.

84th plenary meeting
22 December 2006